

in independent form to include all of the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims. The indication of the allowable subject matter of Claims 3-5, 7-10, 13-15, 17-20, 34-36, and 38-41 is hereby gratefully acknowledged.

Addressing now the rejection of Claims 1-2, 11-12, 21-23, 25-28, 30-33, 42-43, and 45-46 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yukino, it is respectfully submitted that those claims patentable define over that rejection.

Each of the above-noted claims requires an operation in which the supply of recording data from an interface to a printing portion is executed at predetermined printing intervals. It is respectfully submitted that such features in the present invention are neither taught nor suggested by Yukino.

The basis for the outstanding rejection recognizes that "Yukino does not explicitly disclose the claimed supplying the recording data to the printing unit at predetermined intervals".¹ To overcome this recognized deficiency in Yukino, the basis for the outstanding rejection relies on the teaching of Yukino with reference to Figure 9 and as disclosed at column 11, line 44, to column 12, line 11.²

In response to that basis for the outstanding rejection, it is respectfully submitted that the teachings in Yukino in Figure 9 and at column 11, line 44, to column 12, line 11, do not teach or suggest subject matter of the present invention.

More specifically, the present invention includes an interface which converts facsimile image data to recording data. Further, a controller is provided in the present invention to

¹See the Office Action of May 18, 1999, at page 2, the third and fourth lines from the bottom.

²See the Office Action of May 18, 1999, at the paragraph bridging pages 2 and 3.

control the supplying of the recording data from the interface to a printing portion at predetermined printing intervals.

Yukino does disclose a printer interface 50 which is similar to that as in the present invention. However, Yukino does not disclose or suggest that the supply of recording data from the printer interface 50 to a printer (which is not shown therein) is performed at predetermined printing intervals.

This is particular the case as Yukino does not disclose or suggest any control whatsoever of the output of printing data from the printer interface 50 to a printer.

The cited passage in Yukino at column 11, line 44, to column 12, line 11, does not meet the limitations of the above-noted claims as that disclosure in Yukino is not directed to supplying printing data from the printer interface 50 to a printer. This is expressly noted in Yukino which discloses that the operation with respect to Figure 9 is directed to

converting the printer output file to image information and transmitting the image information shown in FIG. 6B is executed when the destination facsimile system does not have the POF receiving function or when the printer control code system employed in the destination facsimile system is not in agreement with that of the transmitting system (emphasis added).³

Thus, the disclosure cited in Yukino is not directed to printing out data at the printer at the facsimile machine, but is directed to transmission data to be transmitted to a destination facsimile machine.

In contrast to such teachings in Yukino, in the present invention as recited in the above-noted claims, the facsimile machine includes its own printer, its own printer interface, and a data supply control which controls the printer interface to supply the recording data to the printer at predetermined printing intervals. The cited disclosure in Yukino directed to a

³See specifically Yukino at column 11, lines 36-42.

format of facsimile data to be transmitted to a destination facsimile machine does not correspond to such subject matter as in the present invention.

Moreover, the disclosure in Yukino in Figure 9 discloses an emulation performed in a transmitting facsimile machine prior to transmitting facsimile data to a destination facsimile machine. No subject matter disclosed in Figure 9 of Yukino corresponds in any way to printing information output from the printer interface 50 to a printer.

The present invention is directed to a facsimile machine which includes a printer, and the above-noted limitation in the present invention of supplying recording data to the printer at predetermined intervals is directed to outputting data at the printer of the facsimile machine, and is not directed to teachings such as in Yukino to the transmission of data from the facsimile machine to a destination facsimile machine.

In these ways, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention as recited in Claims 1-2, 11-12, 21-23, 25-28, 30-33, 42-43, and 45-46 patentably defines over the teachings in Yukino.

Addressing now the further rejection to Claims 6, 16, and 37 further in view of Ohmura et al, and the further rejection of Claims 24, 29, and 44 further in view of Nakagawa, it is respectfully submitted that those claims patentable define over those further rejections. More particularly, each of the above-noted rejections is based on Yukino rendering obvious the subject matter of the independent claims. As noted above, the independent claims patentably define over the teachings in Yukino. Moreover, no teachings in Ohmura et al or Nakagawa can overcome the above-noted deficiencies in Yukino. Thus, each of the above-noted further claims patentably defines over the further rejections thereto.

In view of these forgoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that each of the pending claims patentably defines over the applied art. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is thereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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